

UNITED STATES

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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## ARCHITECTS SELECTED FOR NATIONAL FISHERIES CENTER AND AQUARIUM

Selection of two architectural firms to jointly prepare plans for the National Fisheries Center and Aquarium in Washington, D. C., was announced today by General Services Administrator Bernard L. Boutin and Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall.

The firms are Welton Becket and Associates, Los Angeles, Calif., and John J. Flad and Associates, Madison, Wis.

Completion of preliminary drawings and alternate design concepts is expected in about three months. An estimated 20 months will be required to complete final working drawings.

Interior's proposed 1964-65 fiscal year budget provides \$500,000 for the preparation of final plans.

The National Fisheries Center and Aquarium is to be constructed on Hains Point in Washington at a cost of \$10 million. Completion is expected in 1967.

Financing arrangements for the Center are unique in that they provide that the Government research and educational institution will be self-supporting. Both construction and operation costs are to be paid from an admission charge to all except student groups.

The Center will show one of the world's largest collections of aquatic animals in near-natural habitat. There will be extensive research facilities for such studies as genetics, reproduction, nutrition, fish diseases, antibiotics produced by marine animals, and experimental ecology.

**The National Fisheries Center will be administered by Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.**

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